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SECURITY INFORMATION  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR.

SUBJECT Organization, Membership, and Objectives  
of Chinese Communist Farmers' Associations

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1. Chinese Communist farmers' associations, with an estimated [redacted] member-  
ship of 87,000,000, have been organized on the hsiang (village), the ch'u  
(county), and the hsien (district) levels. City governments may establish  
urban farmers' associations to direct these ch'u and hsiang associations which  
may be within the city's administrative area. Associations within several pro-  
vinces may be combined to fit conditions peculiar to a given area.
2. Association membership for poor or middle-class farmers and for the civilian  
and educated elements of a village follows approval by the hsiang association.  
Wealthy farmers, following completion of the land reforms, may join an associ-  
ation on the approval of a general meeting of hsiang farmers or of their repre-  
sentatives.
3. Objectives of the associations are the gradual achievement of social reforms  
and the protection of the livelihood of the farmers through uniting the hired,  
poor, middle-class, and feudalistic persons in farm villages; the organization  
of production and the development of activities which are related to agriculture  
for the improvement of the farmer's economic position; and the protection of the  
farmer's political privileges through the function of the associations as vil-  
lage judicial prosecuting bodies within the land reform program.

East China Associations

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4. In the East China area approximately 32,000,000 persons belong to the associ-  
ations. In the South Kiangsu area the associations were developed [redacted]  
[redacted] Within [redacted] four months 24 hsien and approximately two-thirds of  
the hsiang in the area had established associations. [redacted]  
the first meeting of 429 farmers' representatives was held at Hanchou (120-10,  
30-17). T'AN Lung (譚龍), the Chinese Communist Party deputy secretary in  
Chekiang, was named chairman of a preparatory committee for organizing the associ-

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ations in Shensi, farmers in [redacted] by the end of the year Fukien associations claimed a membership of approximately 740,000.

Central and South China Associations

5. Approximately 11,000,000 farmers from Hunan, Hupei, and Kiangsi provinces belonged to associations [redacted] Farmers' Association activity in Honan began with a convention [redacted] under KWANG Kuo-hua (光復會); it was attended by 617 representatives. [redacted] 77,137,000 persons, including 2,450,000 women, belonged to the Honan associations. [redacted] 62 hsien, 288 ch'u, and 587 hsiang in Kwangtung had been organized into associations, totaling 316,000 persons.

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Southwest China Associations

6. In the southwest area, the first meeting of urban farmers' delegates was called at Chungking [redacted] East Szechuan hsien representatives met [redacted] at Wanhhsien (108-24, 3049). Estimated membership of Kweichow associations, established in 68 hsien, was 8,000,000 [redacted] Sikang representatives met [redacted] Two hundred and sixty Chinese, Tibetans, and representatives from the local I and Li tribes elected fifty-five to the Sikang association committee. Among the fifty-five were one Tibetan and one representative of the I tribe.

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